



Excellence With Carling

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32307-4100

Attachment 1
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TELEPHONE: (850) 599-3316
FAX: (850) 561-8541

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Mr. Bill Proctor, Commissioner
Leon County Court House
Tallahassee, FL 32301

November 10, 2003

Dear Commissioner Proctor:

After consulting with President Gainous, we sincerely ask if you and your fellow commissioners would consider transferring the Neighborhood Justice Center to the Florida A&M University Criminology faculty for continued operations. As you are aware, the Center is of immense value to the underserved population and can be operated successfully.

If the Center is transferred to us, we hope to continue it's current functions, many of which are consistent with *President Gainous' Southside Initiative*, as well as the objectives of FAMU's *Juvenile Justice Role Model Development*, and *Parents and Juveniles in Crisis Programs*.

The Role Model Program, which is the brainchild of Judge Miner, is grounded in the conviction that one method of addressing the problem of juvenile delinquency and crime is to educate and train a sufficient number of culturally diverse role models who understand the critical importance of working with juveniles. Role Model students are trained in conflict resolution and how to be successful mentors, tutors and counselors. The Parents and Juveniles in Crisis Program is designed to reach out to parents and juveniles, informing them about the consequences of delinquency and crime, and providing them a forum for sharing experiences of being involved in the justice system. The Program also serves as a link between parents, law enforcement and the juvenile justice systems by exploring ways to facilitate communication and information flow that help to minimize misconceptions and indifferences among all entities.

Given FAMU's unique location and involvement in assisting the underserved and problem populations, we feel we can successfully manage the affairs of the Neighborhood Justice Center, and bridge the relationship between the community and the justice system, by providing opportunities for victims, offenders and communities to actively participate in the justice process.

We thank you much for your kind consideration and support on the above request.

Sincerely

Narayan Persaud, PhD.
Associate Professor and JJRMDP Director.